

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.     A vehicle closure hinge comprising:  
2                   a mount including a pivot axis flange;  
3                   a pivot link;  
4                   a pivot coupling said pivot link to said axis flange;  
5                   a spring comprising a laterally coiled strand extending from a first  
6 coil end to a second coil end, said strand having a first end at said first coil end and  
7 a second end with a longitudinally extended portion along a longitudinal direction  
8 of said coil to a position at said first end, wherein said first and second ends bias  
9 said link and said mount at said first coil end.

1                   2.     The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said  
2 longitudinally extended portion is positioned within said coil.

3                   3.     The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said  
4 longitudinally extended portion is coaxial with said coil.

1                   4.     The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said first strand  
2 end and said second strand end terminate at a substantially coplanar position.

1                   5.     The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said pivot link is  
2 a gooseneck arm.

1                   6.     The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said first and  
2 second ends include radially extending arm portions.

1                   7.     The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein at least one of  
2 said arm portions has a terminal portion pivotally secured to one of said pivot link  
3 and said mount.

1                   8.     The invention as defined in claim 7 wherein both said first and  
2 second ends include radially extending arm portions having terminal portions, a first

3 of said terminal portions being pivotally secured about a first spring arm axis to said  
 4 pivot link, and a second of said terminal portions being pivotally secured about a  
 5 second spring arm axis to said mount.

1 9. The invention as defined in claim 8 wherein said first spring  
 2 arm axis and said second spring arm axis are spaced from and parallel to the axis  
 3 of said pivot axis flange.

1 10. A method for spring biasing a vehicle closure hinge:  
 2 mounting a pivot axis flange on a compartment bordering structure;  
 3 aligning a pivot link carried by the vehicle closure adjacent said pivot  
 4 axis flange;  
 5 coupling said pivot link to said pivot axis flange;  
 6 biasing said pivot link about said with a laterally coiled strand spring  
 7 extending from a first coil and to a second coil end, said strand having a first strand  
 8 end at said first coil end, and a second, strand end portion extending along a  
 9 longitudinal direction of said coil to a position at said first coil end, wherein said  
 10 biasing acts about said pivot axis at said first coil end.

1 11. The invention as defined in claim 10 wherein said biasing  
 2 includes aligning said second strand end portion through said coil.

1 12. A vehicle closure hinge comprising:  
 2 a mount including a pivot axis flange;  
 3 a pivot link;  
 4 a pivot coupling said pivot link to said pivot axis flange;  
 5 a spring comprising a laterally coil strand extending from a first  
 6 coiled end to a second coil end, said strand having a first strand end coupled to said  
 7 pivot link and a second strand end coupled to said mount;  
 8 wherein said pivot link is a gooseneck bar.

1 13. The invention as defined in claim 12 wherein said coiled  
 2 strand is coaxial to said pivot axis.

1                   14.    The invention as defined in claim 12 wherein said coiled  
2   strand is wrapped about an axis parallel to but spaced from said pivot axis.

1                   15.    The invention as defined in claim 12 wherein said first strand  
2   end is pivotally coupled to said pivot link.

1                   16.    The invention as defined in claim 15 wherein said pivotally  
2   coupled first strand end pivotally engages a lever carried by said pivot link.

1                   17.    The invention as defined in claim 16 wherein said lever  
2   includes a second pivot coupling to said pivot link.

1                   18.    The invention as defined in claim 12 wherein said closure  
2   hinge includes one of said first strand end and second strand end being coupled to  
3   said pivot link at a position spaced from said pivot axis.

1                   19.    The invention as defined in claim 18 wherein said second  
2   strand is coupled to said mount at a position spaced from said pivot axis.